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COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS
Twenty-fifth session
Geneva, 23 April-11 May 2001
Item 7 of the provisional agenda

SUBMISSION OF REPORTS BY STATES PARTIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLES 16 AND 17 OF THE COVENANT

Follow-up to the consideration of reports under articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant

Note by the Secretariat

1. At its fourteenth session, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, recognizing the importance of periodically reviewing the implementation by States parties of its suggestions and recommendations, requested the Secretariat to submit to it, as from the fifteenth session, a document indicating all cases where a follow-up had been suggested by the Committee.

2. The information requested by the Committee is to be found in the annex to the present note.

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Annex

FOLLOW-UP BY STATES PARTIES TO THE CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

(status as at 1 January 2001)

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
Armenia	E/1990/5/Add.36 E/C.12/1/Add.39 E/C.12/1999/ SR.38-40	The Committee recommends that the Government of Armenia provide more specific and detailed data, which are up to date and, where necessary, disaggregated by gender, relating to the rights set forth in the Covenant. The Committee requests the Government to provide the data specifically requested on housing, food, health and education within six months of the adoption of the concluding observations (concluding observations, para. 17).	3 June 2000	
Dominican Republic	E/1990/6/Add.7 E/C.12/1996/SR.29 and 30 E/C.12/1/Add.6	The Committee invited the State party to confirm publicly its commitment to implement its binding human rights treaty obligations. It strongly called upon the Government of the State party to honour its obligations under the Covenant, particularly through maintaining the proper direct and constructive dialogue with the Committee as called for in the Covenant. The Committee	28 April- 16 May 1997	Final concluding observations were adopted by the Committee at its seventeenth session (17 November-5 December 1997), E/C.12/1/Add.16.

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		proposed to adopt its final concluding observations in relation to the State party at its sixteenth session; for that reason the present concluding observations would be considered "preliminary", pending further consideration of the report based on a dialogue with representatives of the State party at its sixteenth session (concluding observations, para. 26).		
		The Committee further recommended that the State party provide it with written replies to the concluding observations adopted at its eleventh session (E/C.12/1994/15), in particular with regard to its request that the State party invite representatives of the Committee to visit the Dominican Republic; the written list of issues drawn up with respect to the third periodic report (E/C.12/1995/LQ.7); information contained in the document "The Dominican Republic: an independent report submitted to the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights by the International Women's Rights Action Watch" (concluding observations, para. 28).	28 April-16 May 1997	1. The State party invited representatives of the Committee to visit the Dominican Republic (note verbale of 28 April 1997) 2. Written replies to the list of issues submitted 23 April 1997

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
		The Committee requested the State party to submit the information referred to in the preceding paragraph by 15 February 1997 in order to allow the Committee to consider that information at its sixteenth session (concluding observations, para. 29). The Committee strongly recommended that the specific information requested above be presented to the Committee at its sixteenth session by an expert delegation (concluding observations, para. 30).	28 April-16 May 1997 28 April-16 May 1997	The Committee welcomed the resumption of dialogue with the Dominican Republic ... and the submission by the State party of comprehensive written answers to its List of issues The Committee also welcomed the appearance before it of an expert and a high-level delegation from the capital, which allowed for a fruitful and constructive dialogue to be conducted (E/C.12/1/Add.16, para.1, 3 December 1997).

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
El Salvador	E/1990/5/Add.25 E/C.12/1996/SR.15, 16, 18 E/C.12/1/Add.4	Further information was requested on articles 6-8 and 15 of the Covenant, as well as on any problems encountered in that regard (concluding observations, para. 36).	31 October 1996	The requested information was provided on 11 August 1998.
		Information was requested on the activities of the Office of the Procurator for the Defence of Human Rights, in particular on how much weight its recommendations carried and on the action taken on complaints it filed with regard to violations of economic, social and cultural rights, information enabling the Committee to evaluate the extent to which the members of indigenous communities enjoyed all the economic, social and cultural rights provided for in the Covenant (concluding observations, paras. 28 and 35).	Next report	
		The proposal of the Centre for Human Rights concerning technical cooperation should be given favourable consideration and such assistance used to guarantee the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights by all (concluding observations, para. 39).		Within the framework of project ELS/95/AH/10 (1997/98)

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Guinea	Without report E/C.12/1996/ SR.17, 22 E/C.12/1/Add.5	The Committee reiterated its request that the Government of Guinea actively participate in a constructive dialogue with the Committee on how the obligations arising from the Covenant could be fulfilled in a more adequate manner. It called to the Government's attention the fact that the Covenant created a legal obligation for all States parties to submit periodic reports and that Guinea had been in breach of this obligation for many years (concluding observations, para. 25). The Committee recommended that the Government of Guinea avail itself of the advisory services of the Centre for Human Rights in order to enable it to submit as soon as possible a comprehensive report on the implementation of the Covenant, in conformity with the revised general guidelines adopted by the Committee in 1990 (E/C.12/1991/1) and with particular emphasis on the issues raised and concerns expressed in the concluding observations (concluding observations, para. 26).		

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
		The Committee encouraged the Centre for Human Rights to make available, through its programme of advisory services and technical assistance, expert assistance to States for the purpose of formulating policies on economic, social and cultural rights, and developing the implementation of coherent and comprehensive plans of action for the promotion and protection of human rights, as well as developing adequate means of evaluating and monitoring their realization (concluding observations, para. 27).		
Honduras	E/1997/22, para. 391 Letter from the Government of Honduras, January 1997	Request for technical assistance	May 1997	Assistance provided, March 1997. Initial report received 2 April 1998
Israel	E/1990/5/Add.39 E/C.12/1998/SR.31-33 E/C.12/1/Add.27	The Committee requests the State party to provide additional information on the realization of economic, social and cultural rights in the Occupied Territories, in order to complete its initial report and thereby to ensure full compliance with its reporting obligations.	30 June 2000	

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
		Detailed information, including the latest statistical data, is also requested on the progressive realization of economic, social and cultural rights in East Jerusalem, keeping in mind the concerns raised by the Committee in the relevant paragraphs of the concluding observations. In addition, the Committee also requests updated information on the target dates for recognizing unrecognized villages and an outline plan for the delivery of basic services including water, electricity, access roads, health care and primary education, to which the villagers are entitled as citizens of Israel. The Committee requests that the additional information also include an update on the Outline Plan of Ein Hod and progress in the recognition of Arab El-Na'im, as well as an update on the Jahalin Bedouins camped in Abu Dis who are awaiting a court decision on their resettlement. The Committee requests the submission of detailed additional information in this respect in time for the twenty-third session of the Committee in November and December 2000 (para. 32).		
	Twenty-fourth session, 13 November-1 December 2000	The Committee, having considered the information provided to it by the Permanent Mission of Israel in its note verbale dated 3 November 2000, in a letter addressed to the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations Office and other International	1 March 2001	The Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
		Organizations in Geneva, reminded the State party that the concluding observations requested the submission of additional information in time for the Committee's twenty-fourth session (November-December 2000). Further, the Committee emphasized that some of the additional information, especially the material concerning the occupied territories, was requested "in order to complete the State party's initial report and thereby ensure full compliance with its reporting obligations" (para. 32). In light of all the circumstances, its concluding observations and the current crisis in Israel and the occupied territories, the Committee resolved at its twenty-fourth session to consider at its next (twenty-fifth) session the situation in the OPT, with a view to assisting the State party conform to its obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Accordingly, the Committee urged Israel to submit up-to-date information on economic, social and cultural rights in the occupied territories by 1 March 2001. This information should give particular attention to the issues concerning the occupied territories that were identified in the concluding observations, as well as those mentioned in the Committee's letter. The Committee decided to consider the additional information, and any other reliable material		Geneva in its note verbale dated 3 November 2000 informed the Committee that the second periodic report "... will include issues referred to, and information requested by, the CESCR in its concluding observations to Israel's Initial Report of November 1998". The Mission also informed the Committee that "It is expected that the second periodic report will be ready for submission no later than March 2001."

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
		with which it is provided, on 4 May 2001 (3.00-6.00 p.m.). The Committee invited the State party to participate in this discussion.		
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	E/C.12/1/Add.15	The Committee requested that the State party provide the Committee with all of the written answers promised by the delegation, and that the State party's second periodic report contain more information regarding actual practice and the effective implementation of the rights guaranteed by the Covenant and include information on action taken with regard to the present concluding observations (concluding observations, para. 25).	Second periodic report	
Nigeria	E/C.12/1/Add.23 May 1998	The Committee urges in the strongest terms that union leaders and their rank and file members, including in particular those named in paragraph 17 above, who have been imprisoned without being charged or tried, be freed immediately (concluding observations, para. 37).	Urgently	

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
		"The Committee recommends that more positive and open dialogue between the Committee and the Nigerian Government can be undertaken, and maintained. This dialogue need not await the passage of the next five years. The Committee calls upon the Government to submit a comprehensive second periodic report, prepared in conformity with the Committee's guidelines, by 1 January 2000." (concluding observations, para. 43.)	1 January 2000	
		The Chairperson of the Committee, in her letter, dated 27 November 2000 and addressed to the Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva, informed the State party that at its twenty-fourth session (13 November-1 December 2000) the Committee, under its follow-up procedure, considered the status of implementation of its previously adopted concluding observations and, with respect to Nigeria, found that as of this date the State party had not submitted its second periodic report called for in paragraph 43 of its concluding observations (May 1998). Accordingly, the Committee decided to request the State party to submit its second periodic report as soon as possible but not	1 November 2001	

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
		later than 1 November 2001. At the same time the Committee indicated that "If the Government of Nigeria is experiencing difficulties in the preparation of its second periodic report, it may avail itself of the advisory services and technical assistance of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights for the preparation of States parties' reports to be submitted under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights."		
Paraguay	E/1990/5/Add.23 E/C.12/1996/SR.1, 2, 4 E/C.12/1/Add.1	The Committee requested the State party to provide it with written replies to the unanswered questions from the list of issues (concluding observations, para. 32).	31 October 1996	The requested information was provided on 10 December 1998
		The next report should fill in the information gaps identified during the consideration of the initial report by the Committee (i.e. detailed information on the full implementation of legislative and administrative measures relating to prevention and enforcement in respect of safe and healthy working conditions; cases in which the Covenant has been invoked in the courts) (concluding observations, para. 32).	30 June 1999	

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Peru	E/C.12/1/Add.12	The Committee called upon the State party to submit as soon as possible all the relevant information which it had failed to provide during the consideration of its report. The State party should, in particular, give detailed information on the legislative and other measures and practices adopted in connection with the right to adequate housing and the right to social security, particularly in relation to the functioning of the pensions system (concluding observations, para. 40).	As soon as possible	The requested information was provided on 2 December 1997 and 18 February 1998
Portugal (Macau)	E/1990/6/Add.8 E/C.12/1996/SR.31-33 E/C.12/1/Add.9	The Committee took note of the readiness of the State party to provide it with additional information in reply to the concerns expressed by it in the course of the discussion, and recommended that in its replies the State party pay particular attention to the issue of family reunification and to the legislative provisions safeguarding the principles of ILO Conventions No. 103 and No. 138 and their practical applications (concluding observations, para. 16).	1 May 1997	

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		The Committee recommended, in view of the lack of sufficient information provided by the State party, that detailed information be provided on measures taken to implement the provisions of article 10. In that connection, the attention of the State party was drawn to the relevant parts of the Committee's revised guidelines regarding the form and contents of reports to be submitted by State parties (concluding observations, para. 18). The Committee strongly urged the Portuguese Administration to take all necessary measures to ensure that the reports under the Covenant were submitted after 1999 (concluding observations, para. 24).	1 May 1997	
Solomon Islands (without report)	E/C.12/1/Add.33 (twentieth session)	The Committee recommends that the Government of Solomon Islands avail itself of the advisory services of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, so that it may submit, as soon as possible, a comprehensive report on the implementation of the Covenant in conformity with the Committee's revised guidelines and with particular emphasis on the issues raised and concerns expressed in the present concluding observations (concluding observations, para. 25).	As soon as possible	

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
		The Committee also encourages the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, through its programme of advisory services and technical cooperation, to make expert assistance available to the Government for the purpose of formulating policies on economic, social and cultural rights and developing the implementation of coherent and comprehensive plans of action for the promotion and protection of human rights, as well as for developing adequate means of evaluating and monitoring their realization (concluding observations, para. 25).		
		In accordance with articles 2.1 and 23 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the specialized agencies are invited to supply the Committee with supplementary information and comments relevant to the status and enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights in Solomon Islands, thereby assisting the Committee and the State party to identify appropriate measures designed to implement the Covenant in Solomon Islands. The Committee invites the State party to participate in a dialogue to be held during the Committee's twenty-first session together with representatives	Twenty-first session, 19 Nov. 1999 38th meeting	The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies provided the Committee with the requested information: UNDP, UNICEF, FAO, The World Bank, IMF, WTO.

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		of the relevant specialized agencies, such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, FAO, WHO, ILO, UNDP, UNICEF and UNESCO. The Committee expresses its belief that only by means of a constructive dialogue between the State party, the above institutions and the Committee can an adequate and realistic appraisal of the feasible development and human rights strategies be achieved for the benefit of all citizens of Solomon Islands (concluding observations, para. 28).		A representative of the State party participated in the discussion the Committee held on 19 November 1999.
	E/2000/22, Chapter VI (twenty-first session)	The Committee acknowledged with appreciation the willingness of the Government of Solomon Islands to cooperate with the Committee and encouraged it to finalize as soon as possible the drafting of its initial report on the implementation of the Covenant and submit it to the Committee for its consideration. The Committee acknowledged with appreciation the contribution of Specialized Agencies (the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and the World Trade Organization (WTO), United Nations organs (the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and non-governmental		

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		organizations (the Centre for Housing Rights and Evictions (COHRE), Amnesty International and the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ)) to the Committee's review of the state of implementation of the Covenant by the Government of Solomon Islands. The Committee expresses its particular appreciation to the United Nations Development Programme for the assistance provided to the Government of Solomon Islands in response to the Committee's concluding observations of May 1999.		
Sri Lanka	E/1990/5/Add.32 E/C.12/1998/ SR.3-5 E/C.12/1/Add.24	The Committee further requests that an updated report be provided on progress achieved by the Government in addressing the problems of poverty, malnutrition and lack of adequate housing (para. 28).	1999	
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Hong Kong	E/1994/104/Add.10 E/C.12/1996/SR.39, 41, 42 and 44 E/C.12/1/Add.10	The Committee requested that, within 45 days, it receive a comprehensive response to its inquiry regarding three Vietnamese refugees who had been denied medical and dental treatment, mainly for refusing to return voluntarily to Viet Nam (concluding observations, para. 42).	27 January 1997	Response received on 23 January 1997

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Zimbabwe	E/C.12/1/Add.12	The Committee reminded the State party that, as a signatory to the Covenant, it was committed to ensure compulsory, free primary education to all children in Zimbabwe. Even though the Committee was aware of the current difficulties in Zimbabwe and the State party's efforts in that field, the Committee invited the State party to submit to it within a year a plan of action and a progress report as to the implementation of this obligation (concluding observations, para. 22).	16 May 1998	
		Bearing in mind that members of the Committee requested specific information that was not provided during the examination of the State party's report, in particular on the cultural situation and the participation of minority groups in cultural life, the Committee urged the State party to submit the requested additional information and statistics within three months of receipt of the Committee's concluding observations, and in any event prior to the Committee's seventeenth session (concluding observations, para. 23).	20 August 1997	